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Military Conscription in South P'yongan Province.

1. From 25 September to early October 1952 the most extensive North Korean army military conscription order since the withdrawal of United Nations forces from North Korea in December 1950 was carried out in South P'yongan Province. All men from 17 to 35 years of age and former soldiers who had been discharged because of age were conscripted by armed policemen and civilian helpers without any advance notice. Draft evaders were branded reactionaries and their families were ill treated. In Kangdong-gun (126-09, 38-59) (BU-5318) 700 to 800 young men were conscripted during the period. In each county (gun) conscripts received physical examinations immediately and again before entering North Korean army training camps. Most of the newly conscripted men went to the training station at YD-577335, near Wont'an-myŏn (125-58, 39-06) (YD-5732). Those subject to military service but not drafted were mostly boys from 17 to 18 years of age. Village (ri) cell chiefs, village self-defense team leaders, key members of administrative organizations, technicians at munitions factories and railroad workers were deferred.

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Conscription in P'yongyang

2. On 10 September 1952 the North Korean Ministry of National Defense ordered all youths between the ages of 17 and 25 in P'yongyang to register for a national draft.<sup>1</sup> After passing a physical examination, the draftees were sent to training camps. They were told they were registering for a volunteer force but within four days after passing the examinations they were assigned to the regular North Korean army. Women between the ages of 17 and 25 were registered if they were single. Some men and women between the ages of 26 and 38 were conscripted on a limited scale. Women in this category were taken only if single or married and without children.

Registration in Changho-ri for Military Training

3. On 1 October 1952 all men between the ages of 17 and 47 in the Changho-ri (128-26, 40-07) (DV-5240) area were being registered for military training by the local people's committee.<sup>2</sup> Registrants were divided into three age groups: 17 to 27; 28 to 37; and 38 to 47. Training of the first group began in early October.

1. [ ] Comment. The conscription orders referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 are possibly the same.

2. [ ] Comment. This registration possibly refers to registration for the Special Armed Self-Defense Units [ ]

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